

all stua may-sun, chin cain he (worship him). Ten thousand year,—more, he makee die, go upside sky,—make dat emp'ers house. Emp'rer makee he mandaree, he werry prasper man, all same school master; when got werry hard walk all man chin chin he (invoke him), all same Ingliu man talkee chin chin Jos' (idol worship). 'Well, but,' said I, unwilling to appear to assent to his mythology, 'Englishmen will tell you that 'Jos pigeon' is only fools' pigeon. There is only one God, and Chinamen have no more. He does everything well, and will not allow what is bad.' 'Oh, yes, my savey dai Gott berry well, he all same Jos.' 'No, he is not all same Jos.' 'Yes, my savey dai Gott, my likey Cheenamen Jos more better; Cheenamen Jos let him makee walk, catch wage S'nday. Inglishman Gott say no walk S'nday.' Achone was too courteous to stick to any opinion he advanced when opposed to me, so it became in matters civil as well as religious, useless to 'argue the point' with him.

We have yet to describe the plumbing, painting, and glazing, to complete our mansion. Of the first we may safely say there was none, the hard lime furnishing the linings of all the gutters, and the water-closets being on the night-table principle.

Paint is laid on sometimes in almost a paste, with a piece of chip, and is very glossy when dry. Glazing is done as with us. The Tong yao fooi, lime and oil (putty) is as indispensable to Chinese joiners as to the English, and the glaziers accustomed to work their oyster shell into labyrinthine compartments of carved casements, find sash squares very easy to stop in.

We have thus imperfectly traced the progress of construction, and the difficulties which occur in the erection of an ordinary English house, where all is square work, line and rule work. A little reflection on the clumsiness and inaccuracy displayed by Chinese artisans in such simple constructions, awakens our wonder at the truth and correctness with which the complicated curves of elaborate temple roofs are produced, bristling with porcelain dragons, fishes, frets, and scrolls, exhibiting contortions of eaves, board, gable, ridge, and hip, setting geometry at defiance, and yet in a manner symmetrically subservient to some of her rules, seeming, in the quaint contour of their fantastic creatings, to be less the productions of a plodding, persevering, unchanging people, than the magic creations of a race of fairies."

EDWARD ASHWORTH.

NOTES IN THE PROVINCES.

Faringdon.—The old town-hall here is shortly to be put into thorough repair. Bow-windows and other alterations are to be made for the petty sessions, &c. The town fire-engines are to be stationed under it.

Bourton, near Highworth.—On Thursday-week the new Baptist Chapel, erected at the cost of Mr. H. Tucker, of Bourton House, was opened. It is in the Gothic style, with turret and bell, and will seat about 300 persons. Adjoining it is a minister's house.

Shrewsbury.—A memorial, by about 400 of the clergy, burgesses, and inhabitants, to the Council, for the establishment of baths and washhouses, has been seconded by a report of a committee of the council in favour of the proposal, and favourably considered by the council. The probable cost is estimated by the town-surveyor at 300*l.* to 1,000*l.* A site has been selected between the Raven-road and the river Severn belonging to the corporation, and where it is also proposed to erect slaughter-houses.

Exeter.—The governors of the Devon and Exeter Hospital have resolved to make certain alterations in the building, to provide an anatomical lecture room, and improve the School of Medicine and Surgery, at an expense of 400*l.* to 500*l.*

Exmouth.—It is proposed to start a new gas company here unless the present exorbitant price, 10*s.*, be reduced to 6*s.* 6*d.* The company have been allowed a fortnight to consider of it. Their own interest, even though no rival company were threatened, ought to in-

duce them at once to abolish a price so impracticable and obstructive to the extension of gas-light in any town.

Newcastle (Staffordshire).—A new organ built by Mr. Nicholson, of Rochdale, has been put up in St. George's Church at a cost of upwards of 200*l.*

Bridport.—A painted window by Mr. Baillie, of London, has just been erected in the south chancel aisle of the parish church, to the memory of the late rector. It is in the Perpendicular style, and displays the Crucifixion, Resurrection, and Ascension of our Saviour. Each compartment is surmounted by a canopy corresponding in architectural character with the stonework, the ground being filled in with diapering on colours.

Chartham.—Two cottages have been built by Mr. Baker, in Howfield Wood, Chartham, as dwellings for the labouring classes. They consist of four rooms each, a good sized kitchen, 13 by 14 feet, and 8 feet high; a scullery, with an oven and pantry; and two bed-rooms. The kitchens are fitted with fire-lump cottage grates, such as are used in Prince Albert's model cottage, and recommended by the Society for Improving the Dwellings of the Labouring Classes, as it gives out more heat than the common grate. The cost of the two cottages has been 216*l.*

Liverpool.—It is proposed to connect Liverpool and Birkenhead by sinking an iron tube in the bed of the river, buried so completely below the surface there that there would be no more obstruction to the currents than at present. The tube would have perpendicular sides and an arched roof. It would be placed in a prepared bed, and would be protected outwardly by various contrivances, which Mr. Cunningham, is said to be ready to submit to those interested in furthering the design. Internally there would be two lines of rails running on each side of the tube, with a passage in the middle for pedestrians. The entire work, Mr. Cunningham estimates, would cost not more than 250,000*l.*, and it would form a complete means of transit for goods, railway passengers, and pedestrians, between Liverpool and Birkenhead, besides opening a communication to and from Liverpool for all the railways feeding the Cheshire Junction. The idea is by no means new, however feasible as applied to the Mersey, as it was suggested, by a Liverpool correspondent of our own, for the English Channel even before the Menai channel was provided with its suspended tubes.

Ormskirk.—Mr. R. Rawlinson, of the General Board of Health, has suggested a plan of sewerage and supply of water for Ormskirk. Water is to flow perpetually through the sewers. The supply of water is to be obtained from neighbouring springs. Lord Derby, the proprietor, has offered the land on which they take their rise on liberal terms, as well as a site for a reservoir above the elevation of the town, which will ensure a constant supply under pressure to every house, available also for fire. The expense of the projected work is estimated at 8,000*l.*, as follows:—Sewerage, 3,500*l.*; water supply, 4,500*l.* The local board has sanctioned an application to the general board for the necessary powers to take up the amount of loan, to be repaid in thirty years.

Timperley.—Christ Church, Timperley, was consecrated on Thursday week. This edifice was opened on 20th September, 1849, by licence. It is in the Norman style, and built of Luncorn stone. The area occupied by the church and its grave-yard is 3,894 square yards; by the parsonage-house and grounds, 990 square yards. The plan comprises a body with north porch, chancel, and a tower with spire. The length of the body is 59 feet by 33 feet wide, and the floor is divided into two longitudinal aisles, and two cross aisles by the seats, while at the west end there is a gallery, entered from the tower. The accommodation in the church is for 510 persons, of which 204 are free. The cost of erecting the church was 1,700*l.*; of laying out the grounds around it (which required much care), including the churchyard, 400*l.*; the endowment, 1,700*l.*; the parsonage-house, 800*l.*; altogether about 4,600*l.* Of this there still remains about 70*l.* to be obtained.—*Manchester Courier.*

Manchester.—It is proposed to convert the collegiate church into a cathedral, at a cost of 50,000*l.*, in commemoration of her Majesty's visit to Manchester. The Rev. B. Parkinson, canon of Manchester, who suggested the idea, offers 1,000*l.* as his own subscription, if the remainder be made up within twelve months, and we cannot conceive that the Manchester magnates will find the slightest difficulty in carrying out so noble an idea into successful and speedy accomplishment. Mr. Holden, architect, has furnished the rev. canon, at his suggestion, with a design and working drawings for the conversion of the church into a cathedral worthy of Manchester.

Portwood (Stockport).—According to the *Stockport Advertiser*, the new church of St. Paul, Portwood, was consecrated on Wednesday week. It is a stone edifice, in the Perpendicular style, and consists of nave, north and south aisles, south porch, chancel, and lofty tower and spire at the west end. The nave and aisles are 64 feet 4 inches long, and 5 feet 6 inches wide; the chancel 34 feet long, and 18 feet 8 inches wide inside; and the tower 17 feet 7 inches square over the walls, and, with the spire, 165 feet high to the top of the cross. The porch is placed in the second bay from the west end,—the sacristy at the north-east corner of the chancel. The nave is divided from the aisles by octagonal piers and pointed arches, and is five bays in length, each of which (except those occupied by the north and south doors) is a lofty window of three lights, with rich tracery in the head. The chancel is three bays in length, and is lighted by a window of five lights at the east end, filled with tracery, and on the sides by three light windows. The spire is perforated at different heights by three tiers of spire lights, crocketed, and enriched with tracery, and the whole structure is surmounted by an ornamental metal cross and vane. The roof is of open timber framing, with hammer beams and arched braces. The pews are stained and varnished to imitate old oak. The cost of the erection will be about 4,000*l.* The Church is calculated to hold 608 worshippers, in uniform open seats, 402 of the kneelings, or two-thirds of the whole, being free. The designs and working plans were prepared by Messrs. Bowman and Crowther, architects, Manchester; and the entire stonework and masonry have been erected by Mr. Bertram, of Romiley. The whole is enclosed within a stone boundary wall. The foundation stone was laid on 22nd August, 1849. The Church is provided with an organ; and also a large bell, cast at a foundry at Hefess. Gas has been introduced, the fittings having been arranged under the superintendence of Mr. Richmond, of Salford; there is also a hot-air apparatus for warming and ventilation.

Preston.—The movement in favour of a reduction in the price of gas here has at length induced the company to state that they contemplate a reduction in charges both to private consumers, and to the local board of health. The water-supply question is also progressing.

Bradford.—The foundation-stone of St. Andrew's Church, situated at Lister Hills, was laid on Wednesday week. The plan of the building consists of a nave with aisles (the south aisles extending one bay eastward in the church), lower on the north side forming a quasi-transept, and chancel with sacristy on the north. The style is Decorated. From the want of sufficient funds, the spire will not at present be carried up.

Leeds.—The first general meeting of the Society for promoting Public Improvements in the Borough of Leeds, was held in the Philosophical Hall, on Thursday week. The object of the society is to influence public opinion, and encourage public taste, in reference to the removal or mitigation of nuisances, the prosecution of useful works, and the improvement of the streets and buildings of the borough. The mode of its operation is to be by lectures, and by obtaining plans and designs, or eliciting suggestions, for promoting the ends in view—the sanitary and social well-being of the inhabitants, the architectural character of the town, and the adoption of the best means of securing public comfort and convenience. The mayor